

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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Wonderful, Threefold SALVATION!

The Permanent Cure

- For a Sin-Sick Soul;
- For a Wary, Broken and Ageing Body;
- For a Wicked, Wasted and Disappointing Life.

By EVANGELIST BILL RICE
314 Naperville St., Wheaton, Illinois

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."—Romans 1:16.

This magnificent statement is one of the richest in meaning of all the verses in all the Bible. One could preach a whole series of sermons from this one verse, using each word as the basis for an entire sermon.

In the message on the first word, "for," one could tell "why for" he is not ashamed of the gospel of Christ!

Next he could base his message on the second word, "I" and explain that while one cannot answer for the hypocrites and others he can and must account for himself.

Then "am"—present tense! Not

what we were and did in days gone by but what we are right now.

And "not"! Oh, there are so many things we are ashamed of but surely "not" the gospel of Christ!

"Ashamed"! What a sermon that would make! There is nothing within ourselves in which we can take pride but how we glory in the gospel of Christ.

"Gospel," the only "Good news" this poor world will ever hear!

"Christ"! Son of God who came to earth through the body of a virgin to also become Son of Man! Who died for our sins and arose again. It is the gospel of Christ we preach; not the gospel of any other.

And so on with the other precious words in this great text. But since this is not a series but a single message, let me stress the word "salvation." Paul was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ because, when accepted, it brought salvation. It worked! All the power of Almighty God stands behind the gospel message to "every one that believeth." Here is salvation for every sin-sick soul. And what a salvation! It is threefold!

1. Salvation for the Soul

Oddly enough, I have known just about all my life that I was

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Rev. Bill Rice

Again It Is Written

By R. L. MOYER, D.D.

Late Dean, Northwestern Schools and Pastor, First Baptist Church, Minneapolis

"Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God."—Matt. 4:7.

Scripture makes no attempt anywhere to explain the mystery of the union of the human and Divine in the Lord Jesus Christ. It very clearly sets forth the fact that He was Man and He was God—He was God-man. We cannot understand this union of two natures in one Person. Neither can we understand the union of body and spirit in ourselves. We have that which links us to the earth; we have that which links us to God. If we cannot understand ourselves, we should not be surprised that we cannot understand Him.

Since we cannot understand the union of the human and the Divine in Christ, it is hard for our finite minds to grasp His temptation as God Incarnate. We know that He was tempted. Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 4:1-13, and Mark 1:12-13 give us the record of that temptation. Matthew and Luke give the more complete accounts, with Matthew probably giving the chronological order. Hebrews 4:15 declares that He "was in all points tempted like as we are, sin apart." That gives the reality, the range, and the result of the temptation.

In the temptation, the humanity of the Lord is in the forefront. We will never understand the tempta-

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Dr. R. L. Moyer

Immanuel—"God With Us"

A Christmas Sermon

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."—Isa. 7:14.

By EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

Here is a Christmas Scripture, a verse in the Old Testament that speaks about the birth of the baby Jesus, God's own Son, who was born of a virgin mother, lived among men, died for our sins on the cross, and arose again and ascended to Heaven. The prophet Isaiah, nearly 750 years before the Saviour was born, wrote by divine inspiration, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

This verse was later quoted by the angel of God, speaking to Joseph, the promised husband of Mary. The record is given us in Matthew 1:23. So we know that this verse, written by the prophet of God long beforetime, tells of the birth of Jesus Christ.

The virgin birth is a sign, we are told. The preceding verse says that it is a sign given to the "house of David." Of course it was not addressed simply to Ahaz, but to the whole house of David. So Mary, who was of the lineage of David, and Joseph her promised husband, who was also descended from Israel's greatest king, were doubtless familiar with this Old Testament verse. And so each of them found it easy to believe the prophecy of God that the dear Lord Jesus was to be born without a human father, born of a virgin mother.

The New Testament quotation of this verse gives the interpretation of the word Immanuel. Matthew 1:23 tells us: "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall

bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Immanuel (spelled Emmanuel in the New Testament) means "God with us." What a wonderful thought for Christmas! The dear Lord Jesus is called "God with us."

L. The Virgin Birth Essential to Christ's Deity

How like the characteristic straightforward way of the Bible, to tell us first that a virgin should conceive and bear a son and then tell us that this virgin-born Son, without a human father, should be called Immanuel, "God with us." Here the Bible simply expresses an obvious fact: the deity of Christ depends upon His virgin birth. Jesus Christ was not born as other people are. He is not the son of a human father. Rather, He was miraculously conceived in the womb of a virgin. The Spirit of God Himself miraculously caused the conception of the Lord Jesus.

All who understand the simplest, plainest doctrines in the Bible will understand why the Saviour must be born of a virgin. Men are tainted with sin. The whole race is fallen since Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. Every child ever born comes into this world with the curse of sin upon him. Every child is born but to die. And if



Jesus were to be without the taint of sin. He needed to be conceived and born in a way different from the usual course of mankind. He was conceived and born of a virgin. Jesus had no human father!

Wicked men who did not want to honor Jesus as the Christ of God, who were not willing to bow to Him as their Lord and Saviour, have falsely stated that the Hebrew word for virgin, in Isaiah 7:14, did not necessarily mean virgin, but only a young woman, whether married or single. But that statement is as unscholarly as it is malicious. The word here used for virgin (the Hebrew word *almah*) is used six other times in the Old Testament. I have just read the six other verses in the Bible which use this word and even a casual reader would be convinced that the meaning is as translated in Isaiah 7:14, a virgin. One case is that of Miriam, the sister who watched the baby, Moses, in the bulrushes and went and called his mother for the princess who found him. Another is of Rebekah before she was married, and the term is used in his prayer by the godly servant who came to find a bride for Isaac. In one such verse, Song of Solomon 6:8, the word is used to differentiate certain serving girls from the concubines and queens of Solomon! The virgins

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How to Start Plans for Union Campaign

By the Editor

Others have written within the last week asking the editor for revival campaigns in single churches. How we would like to accept every invitation, go to every church, large and small, that invites us! I do go to some single-church campaigns, but so many more people are saved, usually, in a union campaign with several churches cooperating that I have felt a burden to reach as many people that way as possible.

If you would like to have a union revival campaign in your community, we would like to help in any way possible to work with you about such campaigns. My brother, Evangelist William H. Rice, Evangelist Del Fehsenfeld and Evangelist James V. Lamb, all work very closely with me. These younger evangelists believe the same doctrines, have the same general convictions about evangelism as I do. None of them, of course, sets any price on his service. All of us alike leave the matter of our remuneration in the hands of pastors and people, as do other reputable evangelists. None of us ask people to make any future pledges for our support, none of us write back for money. We do take subscriptions for THE SWORD OF THE LORD when people desire to subscribe, but these subscribers never receive a letter asking for gifts. These young evangelists believe as I do, in cooperation, brotherly love, and

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The Glory Of Winning Souls

By CHARLES H. SPURGEON

What bliss it is to be the instrument of saving bodies from death! Those monks on Mount St. Bernard surely must feel happiness when they rescue men from death. The dog comes to the door, and they know what he means; he has discovered some poor weary traveller who has lain down to sleep in the snow, and is dying from cold and exhaustion. Up rise the monks from their cheerful fire, intent to act the good Samaritan to the lost one. At last they see him; they speak to him, but he is dead. They take him up, and give him remedies; hastening to their hostel, they lay him by the fire, and warm and chafe him, looking into his face with kindly anxiety, as much as to say, "Poor creature! art thou dead?" When, at last, they perceive some heaving of the lungs, what joy it is in the breast of those brethren as they say, "His life is not extinct!" It would be

a privilege to chafe one hand of that poor man, and so help to restore him.

Or, suppose another case. A house is in flames, and in it is a woman with her children who cannot by any means escape. In vain she attempts to come downstairs; the flames prevent her. She has lost all presence of mind, and knows not how to act. A strong man comes, and says, "Make way! make way! I must save that woman!" And cooled by the genial streams of benevolence, he marches through the fire. Though scorched and almost stifled, he gropes his way. He ascends one staircase, then another; and though the stairs totter, he places the woman beneath his arms, takes a child on his shoulder, and down he comes, twice a giant, having more might than he ever possessed before. He

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Immanuel--"God With Us"

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were not concubines, were not queens; that is, they were not married and they were literally virgins. The other times also the word is well translated simply virgin, or maid, as distinguished from married woman or matron.

But there is an easier way for us to understand the meaning of the term virgin as used here in Isaiah 7:14, and that is to see how the New Testament explains it. Joseph was deeply concerned when he found that Mary, to whom he was engaged, would soon have a child. Had Mary played the harlot? Had she, whom he had so loved and trusted, gone into sin and was she about to become an unwed mother as the result of her sin? How he loved Mary! Must he renounce her and accuse her before the authorities, and have her stoned to death as an adulteress? While these things troubled the poor heart of Joseph he fell asleep and the angel of God appeared to him. The story is given in Matthew 1:18-25. Let us read it with reverence and joy.

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her first-born son: and he called his name JESUS."

Here again we have the plain, simple statement that "that which is conceived in her [Mary] is of the Holy Ghost." And then

we are told that this is simply a fulfillment of the promise in Isaiah 7:14 that a virgin should conceive and bear the Saviour, without a human father.

You see that the deity of Christ hangs upon His virgin birth.

And again in Luke the same question of the virgin-birth of Christ comes up. The angel Gabriel came to Mary and gave her the wonderful promise that she should be the mother of the Saviour. Luke 1:26-38 tells the story. "And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth. To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin, Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible. And Mary said, Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her."

Mary very properly asked the angel: "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

This is the clear prophecy of a miracle. And the angel said, "For with God nothing shall be impossible." And it is only by virtue of this virgin birth, this miraculous conception, unlike the conception of every other child ever born, that Jesus is called in a unique sense, the Son of God. The deity of Christ depends upon His virgin birth.

Christmas time is a time to honor Christ, God's unspeakable gift to men. Christmas time is a time to praise His name, to glorify Him, to give the dear Lord Jesus the honor which is His due. And no one can give Christ any proper honor who does not admit His virgin birth and therefore His deity.

Every believer in the Bible believes the virgin birth. One who does not believe in the virgin birth of Christ has no right to claim to be a Christian. Any so-called Christian leader or preacher or teacher who says that belief in the virgin birth is not essential is trifling with holy matters. Any such statement is a scandalous hypocrisy, an inexcusable evasion of the truth.

One who does not believe in the virgin birth of Christ should simply say, "I am not a Christian. I do not believe the Bible: I do not believe in the deity of Christ. I do not trust in His atoning blood. I am an infidel, a pagan." One who denies the virgin birth and pretends to be a Christian is a deliberate deceiver, using feigned words to accept a salary or to maintain a position of honor or to get some other gain by this false and wicked pretension of Christianity without a supernatural Christ. At Christmas time it is well for us to remember that, we wish all men well but

Dr. Bob Jones Says:

In my lifetime, I have had many letters that not only touched my heart and sometimes moved me to tears but letters that made me ask myself, "Am I doing for God under the circumstances all I should do?" I have just received the following letter, and it touched me very deeply: "Dear Dr. Jones: Enclosed please find Postal Note for \$10.00 for the Student Loan Fund. I wish it might be more. You know I told you of having a little flower garden which I dedicated to the Lord and all I took in from the sale of flowers I gave to His cause. Well, my children decided it was too much work for me to take care of so many flowers, and I guess they were right as I am 76 years old. So we had to have the roses and peonies taken out and the ground put in grass. I don't know how the Lord will provide for me to give (of course we pay our tithe) but that isn't much as we are on 'Old Age Pension.' But I am sure He will provide some way. May all at the university, president and down to the last scholar, feel the presence of the Blessed Lord at this Christmas season."

After reading the above letter and dictating this statement up to this point, the secretary and I bowed our heads and prayed that God would direct in every detail connected with Bob Jones University. We wish to use every penny of money

that comes into our treasury so as to do the most good possible to the most people possible and to honor our blessed and wonderful Lord.

It occurred to me when I read the letter from this good Christian friend that the Christian people throughout this country could, without any real sacrifice, supply all the money that Bob Jones University needs to do the work that we sincerely believe God has called us to do. We are, therefore, earnestly appealing to our Christian friends to help us by contributing to the Student Loan Endowment Fund, which we are trying so hard to raise. This statement which we are dictating will probably appear in the press Christmas week. Some of you would like to send a Christmas gift to the fund. At Christmas we celebrate the birthday of our Lord. Would not some of you like to make a special gift to Bob Jones University and make it to our Lord in His name? If you cannot get in your contribution this year, remember, we are counting on you in 1949 to really help us. We thank you folks who have already helped us, and we know you are going to keep on keeping on helping us in this great work. Please pray for us. May God bless you, every one.

BOB JONES,

Bob Jones University
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accept no one as a Christian who does not take Jesus Christ for all He claims to be, the virgin-born Son of God.

In the December 4 Saturday Evening Post Dr. E. Stanley Jones is quoted as saying that he wants a united world church and that the only condition for membership would be "the mere affirmation . . . the recognition that Christ is the Son of God." Dr. Jones, the famous Methodist missionary and propagandist, simply mentions an affirmation which is already included in the avowed purpose of the Federal Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. But the affirmation is not sincere on the part of many who join the Federal Council of Churches, and Dr. Jones will forgive us if we must say that we do not believe he is sincere in proposing that single affirmation that Jesus is the Son of God as the one requirement of denominations for joining this super church he proposed. For in fact Dr. Jones is already the most active member of the Federal Council of Churches which he would make into a super church, to take away the independence of other denominations and join these denominations with the infidels and unbelievers already assembled under the name of the Federal Council of Churches! And in that council Dr. Jones is bosom friend and fellow-speaker of that infidel in bishop's robes, Dr. Oxnham, who in an infamous speech recently declared that the God of the Old Testament was "a dirty bully." Dr. Jones who receives the Methodist infidel so gladly knows that Oxnham does not pretend to believe that Jesus is the unique Son of God, that He is God come in the flesh. Dr. Jones is also the co-worker of Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick who wrote the sermon, "The Peril of Worshipping Jesus" (in the book, *The Hope of the World*, pages 96 ff). There Fosdick says that it is wrong to worship Jesus, that Jesus is not divine in any sense except in which others are divine also. That infidel with beautiful language, that messenger of Satan who comes as an angel of light, has been the boon companion of Dr. Jones who prattles of getting everybody together who affirms that they believe Jesus is the Son of God! Henry Sloane Coffin, Bishop Francis John McConnell, with Fosdick and Oxnham and many other modernists, call Jesus "Son of God," tongue in cheek, while they deny His virgin birth and His deity!

If any reader is offended by these plain words, then I challenge you that at Christmas time the honor ought to be given to Jesus Christ and not to compromising preachers, not to pulpit infidels.

If the deity of Christ and His virgin birth which proves it, are offensive to men, then let men be offended and let Christ still have the honor that belongs to Him as God incarnate! We can have no supernatural Christ without a supernatural birth. We can have no miracle Saviour without a miraculous birth. We cannot have Immanuel, God with us, unless He be born as the unique Son of God would be born. Christmas is only pagan tradition if Christ be not virgin born, God in human form.

As the lovely Christmas carol sings,

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon virgin mother and Child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild.

All of historic Christianity revolves around the virgin birth of Jesus, the Son of God, born and laid in a manger at Bethlehem, worshiped by angels and shepherds and wise men, the Jesus who in later years was crucified on a Roman cross and poured out His blood to pay for our sins. The virgin-born Saviour is Immanuel, God with us, our Saviour and our God.

II. Christ Is Literally "God With Us"

... and shall call his name Immanuel." (Emmanuel in New Testament spelling.) Mary called Jesus "Emmanuel." And in Matthew 1:23 the verse is quoted with its interpretation: "And they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

Immanuel, God with us! What a wonderful descriptive name of the dear Lord Jesus! He is "God with us." I hope that that blessed and comforting truth may become a solid foundation on which we may rest forever! I hope that every reader will stop and let the intimate sweetness of this blessed truth move your heart and become a permanent part of your thinking. Jesus is "God with us."

Jesus Is Really God

My book, *Is Jesus God?* which

is an answer to infidels in the church and out, was recently advertised in *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*, and there came a critical letter from a man who said, "Of course Jesus is not God. Jesus is the Son of God! How silly to write a book on 'Is Jesus God?'" But our brother who wrote (I suppose he was a Christian brother) was as ignorant as he was irascible. Jesus is God, and the Scripture clearly says exactly that again and again.

Let us go back again to that "gospel in the Old Testament," the book of Isaiah. There in Isaiah 9:6 is another 'Christmas Scripture,' a prophecy of the birth of Jesus Christ. That verse says: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Did you note that this Child who is born to us and this Son who is given to us is called "The mighty God"? Jesus is God!

In Hebrews 1:8 is this startling statement, "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom." Here in Hebrews 1:8 is a quotation from Psalm 45:6. The Old Testament Scripture says, "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever." Then Hebrews 1:8 says that that is addressed to Jesus Christ the Son! God the Father addressing Jesus the Son says, "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever." Yes, Jesus is literally God. So a beautiful name of Christ is Immanuel, literally meaning God with us. Jesus is God.

Does that seem strange to you? Then turn to the Gospel of John. There in John 1:1, 2 we have the following statement about Jesus who is called "the Word."

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."

In verse 14 of the same chapter the Scripture says: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

This Word who was with God and was God, then was made flesh. Jesus is God but He is God with us! He is Immanuel!

I do not wonder that Thomas who had been doubting the resurrection of the Saviour, when convinced by the nail prints and the wound in the side of the Saviour there before him cried out and said, "My Lord and my God." Jesus is Immanuel, is really God with us.

And the Bible everywhere teaches that Jesus is God. You remember that a rich young ruler came to Jesus and called Him, "Good master," which is similar to "good professor," or "good rabbi." That did not please Jesus, for He is more than a teacher. And so Jesus replied, "Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, that is God." If Jesus is not God then He is not good, for He certainly claimed to be God and He is an imposter and a deceiver unless He is what He claimed to be, God in human form.

We can have no Immanuel unless Christ is really God, unless Christ really is one with the Father.

In Christ God is With the Whole Human Race!

Immanuel is "God with us," God with the whole human race. In II Corinthians 5:19 the Scripture says, "To wit, that God was

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Immanuel—"God With Us"

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in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." There is a sense in which Christ is not only God with Christians, but He is God with mankind. There is a sense in which the whole world is reconciled to God. Let us say, rather, that a bridge has been made between God and men, a bridge for the whole race to cross upon, if they will. Let us say that all the sinners who reject Christ and go to Hell were loved of God and sought of God and bought by the sacrifice of Calvary the same as the rest of us who have trusted and received the Saviour.

When God gave His Son, then God identified Himself forever with the human race. Christ, God the Son, even now sits in Heaven beside the Father on the Father's throne, in a human body! When Christ comes again the second time men will see the wounds in His hands and in His feet. When Christ was born, then, there is a sense in which God became a man. And God the Father and God the Son are so closely related, so perfectly united in thought and plan and will and work that God the Father gave Himself when He gave His Son. And God the Father was eternally tied up with the human race when He gave His Son to be born of a virgin and to become Immanuel, "God with us."

I sometimes tell my daughters that they must remember that when they marry a young man they marry his father and mother and brothers and sisters, too. So when God the Father gave His Son to become a man, God joined Himself to the whole human race. Christ is Immanuel, God with us.

It is beautiful to remember that God made the sun, moon and stars as lights for man on this earth, that God created all the animal kingdom and the vegetable kingdom as realms over which man should have dominion. Of all created beings man is to God the most precious. But now that Christ is born of a virgin and God the Son has become a man, then the godhead is forever to be occupied with the saving of men and God reveals Himself in human terms. God the Father is "Father" as an accommodation of the term a child uses for his parent. Christ is our high priest, as an adaptation of a human office and a human term. Christ is the head and husband of His church, which is His body, including all the saved. But those are adaptations of human terms. God has the whole human race on His hands, and when God gave His Son to become Immanuel, it meant that God would be forever occupied with saving the human race, and that His delight would be in those of mankind who would trust in His Son. And His eternal companions in the glorious future will be sinners saved by grace! Christ is "Immanuel," God with the whole human race.

III. Christ Is 'God With Me'

But for a born-again child of God, Christ is more than God with the human race. Christ is, for the Christian, literally God with me! I can say like Thomas when his doubts were dissolved, "My Lord and my God." Jesus is not only God, He is my God. He is not only God with mankind but He is God with me!

"Christ in you, the hope of glory," says Colossians 1:27. Every Christian has Christ within. That is salvation, to have Christ. And those who have Christ have God the Father, also. In I John 5:12 we are told: "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." Man is not saved because he is a member of a church, nor because he has followed certain rites and ceremonies, nor because he has committed certain worthy deeds. No! One is a Christian, one has salvation if he has God with him, if Christ Himself is within.

On that awesome night when

Jesus talked to the frightened, troubled disciples in the upper room a few hours before His Gethsemane betrayal and arrest and trial and crucifixion, Jesus said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:23). And again Jesus said, "Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you" (John 14:19, 20). You see, the blessed Holy Spirit moves into the body of a Christian and so God the Father and God the Son are forever with him.

The Holy Spirit of God constantly abides in the body of every Christian (Rom. 8:9, I Cor. 6:19, 20). So the Christian can really say that he has Immanuel, that is, that God Himself is with the Christian.

And every Christian has the blessed promise of Jesus, "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." And then beyond the end of this age we have the promise of eternal joy in His presence! One who has Christ has the Immanuel, has God with him. Christ is really 'God with me.'

Oh, weak, stumbling Christians, how foolish for us not to see that Christ with us can solve every problem! He is the creator of the worlds. We are plainly told, "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made" (John 1:3). In Hebrews 1:2 we are plainly told that it was "by His Son," Jesus Christ, "by whom also he made the worlds." How can we fear hunger when the creator of all the fields of the earth, the One from whose providential and loving hand every living creature in the universe is fed, is with us as our beloved, literally God with us and God within! How can we fear circumstances when the God of all circumstances is "the God of all grace," and He is with us! How can we fear sorrow and trouble when "the God of all comfort" is with us! Oh, the riches of love in Christ Jesus! Oh, the wealth of every Christian who has Christ! At Christmas time every one of us might well muse and meditate on the wonderful gift that God gave and say with the inspired apostle, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (II Cor. 9:15). We have Immanuel! We have God with us!

Joshua had God with him and so he could command the sun to stand still in the heavens, and it was so. King Hezekiah had God with him, and he could spread out the blasphemous letter of Sennacherib on the altar of the Lord, and the next morning the angel of God had slain 185,000 enemies besieging the city! The three Hebrew children had one "like the Son of God" to make a fourth in the fiery furnace. They literally had God with them. Christ, Immanuel, made that furnace into a pleasant walk. There was not the smell of fire on their garments, and not a hair of their heads was singed.

If I have needs, God has all the angels at His command, and they are "ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation" (Heb. 1:14). If I have God with me, I have all the angels of Heaven to be my messengers on the wings of light or my protectors with flaming swords! Hallelujah, when I have Immanuel, I have everything!

This morning in the presence of other workers here in the Sword of the Lord office I somewhat timidly asked God that in two days we could have at hand \$9,000 that we might take the 2% discount on some large printing bills just now due. In the prayer I told God that there was no probable source from which such an amount would be humanly expected so soon, but that He was the God of the impossible as well as of the probable. Others joined me in the prayer. We wanted another evidence of God's power

and we wanted to save \$160 of the Lord's money by getting the cash discount. Within an hour after the prayer I had in my hands a letter offering \$5,000 immediately to be invested at reasonable interest in just such a matter as we needed to care for. The other \$4,000 is at hand. Thus the money within two days will be provided, some of it income through regular sources and \$5,000 of it through this unusual and unexpected source. I have had perhaps a thousand such answers to definite prayers. One who has God has the wealth of the universe! Christ is Immanuel, God with us. Praise His name! Hallelujah what a Saviour!

IV. Yet Those Without Christ Are "Without God and Without Hope"

In Ephesians 2:12 is a plaintive and sad word about all who do not know Christ as Saviour. Speaking to the saints at Ephesus, Paul reminded them of the time when they were unsaved, in these words: "That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world."

Any poor man or woman who does not have Christ does not have God. He is in a sad state, being an alien from God's people, a stranger to God's promises, "having no hope, and without God in the world." It is only in Christ that anyone is near to God; for Christ, Immanuel, is "God with us."

Years ago I pressed upon a girl her duty to take Christ as her Saviour. She was not ready. She told me how good and moral she was. She read the Bible. She prayed every day. She was modest and moral and upright.

"But to whom can you pray?" I asked her. "If you will not take Christ as Saviour how could you pray?"

"I pray to God the Father," she said, "not to Jesus."

I assured her sadly that God the Father would never hear the prayer of one who rejected His Son. One who is "without Christ" is also without God in the world. There is no redemption, no salvation, no hope for any poor sinner in the world outside of Jesus Christ!

One who will not have Christ cannot have the Holy Spirit dwelling in his body. One who will not have Christ cannot have God the Father manifesting Himself. One who will not have Christ cannot have forgiveness of sins, cannot have a home in Heaven, cannot have peace of heart. Christ is Immanuel, God with us. One who will not have Christ cannot have God.

How sad to have a Christmas without Christ! Yesterday I was in the Loop shopping district of Chicago and the streets were decorated with giant deer aloft on the light poles and connected with streamers of lights. Lighted Christmas trees are already gleaming in front windows of many homes. There is a rush of buying presents, wrapping packages and mailing beautiful Christmas cards. What a sad sham, what a disappointing and empty celebration is Christmas time without Christ!

Is your joy in the bright Christmas tree with its lights and toys? The Christmas tree will soon be dragged out of the house to be burned or hauled away with the garbage! The pretty wrapping paper will be torn from the packages. The carefully placed seals will be broken and discarded. Mechanical toys will break their springs, and inquisitive little girls will poke the eyes out of doll babies. The mirth of the Christmas feasting and visiting will soon be over. And, oh, how soon the loved ones will be scattered to the end of the world! Some will die and we will never see them again. Others will forget us and leave us lonely and disillusioned. How empty is a Christmas without Christ!

Some of you have a Bible but do not have the God of the Bible. You have the Book but do not have the Author! I do not wonder that you do not read it very much. The Book is a sealed

Wonderful, Threefold Salvation!

(Continued from Page 1)

going to wind up being a preacher, although when I was a youngster I neither wanted nor planned to preach! But even more strange is the fact that almost all of my boyhood friends thought I was going to turn out to be a preacher! Certainly I did not behave like a prospective minister of the gospel. Being both reckless and not headed by nature (although I really shouldn't blame "nature" for my honery disposition) I was usually equally ready to try to ride the wildest horse or lick the toughest kid that came along. I really was a good horseman but many of the fellows could out-fight me. Because I was too stubborn to quit when I was licked, though, the fight usually wound up with me pounding the living daylights out of the other kid! Many a time I have wobbled away from a battleground when, like Napoleon, "one more such victory would cost me my kingdom!" Moreover, I often used vile language to show my friends just how "tough" I was.

But my friends failed to be impressed. Many a time we have sat around a campfire after a possum hunt and made prophecies about the future. We decided that Jimmy Cunniss with a good head and a liking for hard work would be a successful merchant. (He is a farmer and a good one near Decatur, Texas.) Booth Mooney, with a love for study and a talent of writing, would surely be a newspaper editor. (Bullseye!) A. C. Hoyle would, with his gift of gab, sell life insurance like hotcakes. (Delivered potato chips last I heard of him.) Finally my turn would come and eagerly I awaited their decision. What would they prophesy for me? A rancher? Rodeo rider? Airplane pilot? Nope, it turned out the same way every time, no matter what gang I was with. After discussing my good and bad points one of them would drawl, "Billy, yore as mean as the Devil, but some how I believe yore cut out to be a preacher as shore as yore born!"

And I secretly thought so, too, although I wasn't too sold on the idea at that time. Ranching was, to me, the ideal vocation. It was a healthy, wholesome life around livestock I love and there was the prospect of making big money.

Later, however, when I was in college I began thinking rather seriously about life. For the first time I realized that my life here would be rather short and it was important that I make the most of it. What could I do that would help me get the most out of life? Well, what did I have that was the most valuable? Friends were mighty important and yet they passed on even as my own mother and father had. Money was not the most important thing for it could be lost so easily. The more I thought of it the more I was driven to the logical conclusion—the most important thing I had was my salvation. It was the one thing of which I was sure, it was the one thing above all others that brought me the most

Book. The things of God are not revealed to you by the Holy Spirit. For we are told, "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, be- (Continued on Page 8)

joy and it was the one thing that would last me forever.

Well, if salvation meant more to me than anything else, why wouldn't telling others about salvation be the most helpful, useful thing I could do with my life? Raising beef is wonderful but if I could give everyone in the world a meal they would be hungry again the next day! And if I could feed everyone every day they still would not get the most out of life without Jesus and they would spend eternity in Hell without Him! And wouldn't I get the most out of life by doing that which would be the most helpful to others? Wouldn't the greatest joy in life come from serving Jesus whom I had come to admire and worship as well as love? So I dedicated my life to the Lord as an evangelist.

And today, after some seven years in revival work, I solemnly wonder how any saved person can be content doing anything less than winning others to Christ. (In fact, I secretly wonder why all soul winners do not want to be preachers and all preachers evangelists!)

It Works For All Who Believe!

To my great delight I have found again and again that God's promise of salvation, to all who believe, really works. I can say to all who read this—and know I am telling the truth—God will save your soul if you will but turn to Jesus. You can be saved and know you are saved if you will turn from your sins to the Lord Jesus and trust Him to save you and forgive your sins. I have seen this work for literally thousands of people of all nationalities, young and old, good and bad. It will work for you.

An Old "Salt" Saved

I remember the sea captain who came to our meetings in Oregon. He looked like an "old tar" straight from the story books of my boyhood. Dressed in a blue coat with brass buttons, three-week stubble of gray beard, thick-set, squinting blue eyes and, of all things, a wooden leg! His cussing would almost wither the grass and his drinking was a scandal. He was a retired tugboat captain. He came to hear me preach but seemed to be just an on-looker.

I went to see him. He told me (Continued on Page 4)

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Wonderful, Threefold Salvation!

(Continued from Page 3)

of his wasted life of filthiest sin. He could hardly believe that God still loved him. I went back again...no, he would not make a decision for Christ...yes, he would let me know if I could help him...

Then one night in the service many responded to the gospel invitation. The presence of the Holy Spirit was keenly felt by all of us. Men and women and young people came forward to confess Christ. Finally, it seemed I must close and so I said, "If anyone else has received Christ or will receive Christ tonight, won't you please come to let me know?"

In the stillness that followed, broken only by the sniffing of those in tears, I heard a thump! thump! thump! coming down the aisle—it was the peg leg of the captain! He squeezed my hand until a pain shot up my arm. His eyes swam in tears and his voice was near the breaking point as he spoke... "Bill...Bill...do you really think...I could come ashore, too?"

I knew what he meant. For years he had sailed his ship on the sea of iniquity and the dark waves of sin had taken their toll. His masts had been broken, his sails torn down and he was helplessly drifting toward death and Hell. And yet with all his heart he yearned for God's harbor of love, forgiveness and salvation. I led him into the inquiry room where he found peace as the congregation sang,

I've anchored my soul in the
"Haven of Rest,"
I'll sail the wild seas no more;
The tempest may sweep o'er
the wild, stormy deep,
In Jesus I'm safe ever-more!

You, Too, Can Be Saved Today
And you who read this may "come ashore," too. The gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to "every one" that believes. That means you.

Perhaps some girl reads this who has played the harlot. I am so glad I can tell you God loves you, Christ died for you and you can be saved by believing in Christ. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isa. 1:18).

Perhaps some young man reads this who has played the fool. It may be that cursing or drinking or lust has enslaved you. Then read Isaiah 55:7, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Notice the words "mercy" and "abundantly pardon."

Let everyone who has physically or in his heart committed the sin of murder or adultery or lying or stealing or idolatry or swearing or any other sin remember, "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners!" (I Tim. 1:15).

Any sinner? The best and the worst? Yes! This is clearly stated again and again. Christ tasted death for "every man" and is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

God will save the soul of everyone who comes to him through Christ.

II. Salvation for the Body

Wonderful as it is, however, to know our souls are saved, that is only part of our need. What about our bodies? The Bible tells us that "in Adam all die." Not only are we "dead in trespasses and sin" in a spiritual sense but our bodies are literally, physically, actually dying. We are like the old dog I used to sing about as a boy—

"I had an ole dog and his

name wuz Rover,
An' when he died, he died all
all over!"

When Adam sinned he "died all over," spiritually and physically, and we in him.

Now then, if all who die in Adam shall in Christ "be made alive," and if Jesus is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, then why didn't God save my body when He saved my soul? My body certainly needs saving for it is the same one I was born with. I am thirty-five years old, going on a hundred, and my body is getting older every day! Moreover my body bears the scars of broken bones and lacerated flesh that have improved neither my health, disposition or looks! And speaking of "looks," my body never has been anything to write home about for I have always been long (six feet two inches) and lanky. And although I have always been very healthy I certainly would like to have a body that wouldn't get tired after an all-night drive, that wouldn't get cold when I sleep in my car to save on traveling expenses, that wouldn't get hoarse when I preach several times a day and that wouldn't get abscesses in the kidney when I preach with the flu!

Seriously, when Jesus died that my soul might be saved, why didn't He arrange for the salvation of my body, too? The answer to that question should be joyfully shouted around the world—"HE DID! HE DID!" Jesus not only died that your soul might be saved but your body as well.

The Graveyard in Charlotte

One day I walked with John Rice and several other men through one of America's oldest graveyards in Charlotte, South Carolina. I came across a marble slab that bore the following inscription,

Tho' worms devour this wast-
ing flesh,
And time shall turn my
bones to dust,
My God shall raise this frame
afresh
At the revival of the just.

As I read the verse I thanked God with all my heart that a time is coming when those who have died in Christ will be raised from the dead on the resurrection day and those who are alive will be "changed," as I Thessalonians 4:13-18 tells us. Then will be the time when "this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" as I Corinthians 15:53 says. "Then our vile bodies will be 'like unto his glorified body.'" Then "we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

The Preacher's Son and the Legacy

A pastor in New York told me of his son's good fortune. When he was just a baby, a bachelor in town had taken a liking to him and had died, leaving some eleven thousand dollars to the youngster. His will stated, however, that the boy was not to receive the money until he was twenty-one years of age. So the boy grew up without being told he was heir to a small fortune he would receive when he was of age.

When the boy was twenty he fell in love with a fine girl and they decided to be married on his twenty-first birthday. The father performed the ceremony and then gave the young man a bank statement showing he had eleven thousand dollars in the bank! The boy could hardly believe his good fortune! He had become a man, gotten married and received a fortune all on the same day! And he was even more surprised to learn the money had been his for years—ever since the death of Mr. Mitchell—but the will had said he was not to actually receive the money until he was twenty-one.

But every Christian has a bet-

ter legacy than that, for there awaits for every believer a glorified body like the resurrected body of Christ. Just when the resurrection and rapture will take place I do not know, but God has promised to save the body as well as the soul of everyone who believes in Christ.

Perhaps someone reads this whose body is deformed and you feel fate has been unusually severe. Then turn to Jesus and be saved, soul and body. One day your crooked back, twisted limbs, sightless eyes or deafened ears will be made perfect.

Let everyone whose body suffers pain due to age or accident or illness turn to Jesus who will save your soul now and your body later on.

III. Salvation for Your Life

Remember, this salvation in Christ Jesus is threefold. Not only will your soul and body be saved, but your life as well. Oh, how many, many men have indulged in sinful habits for years and now find themselves enslaved and unable to break away!

Many a drunkard would give anything in the world if he could only stop drinking but it seems he simply cannot quit.

Many an adulterer longs for purity but it seems utterly impossible to keep himself from lustful thoughts and deeds.

Many a man would like to be kind to his wife and family but he has given sway to his ugly temper so many years that he has all but made his home a hell-on-earth.

Christ the Remedy

Is there no remedy? Is there no balm in Gilead? Yes, good neighbor, there is—Jesus Christ can save your life! When He saves your soul He will change your heart. You will find, like Paul, that you will now hate the things you once loved and love the things you once hated! The Scripture tells us:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: [or creation] old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."—II Cor. 5:17.

Of course you will still be tempted to do some things that are wrong but you will also be given a strong desire not to do them. Furthermore, we find that "there hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (I Cor. 10:13).

Again we read, "And call upon me in the day of trouble: I WILL DELIVER THEE, and thou shalt glorify me" (Psa. 50:15).

To these let me add but one more precious promise. It is found in John 8:36, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

There are literally millions living today who can testify to the fact that there lives have been radically changed since the day they turned to Christ.

A True Story

Have you heard the story of the young man named Mel who fell in with bad companions and got into the habit of drinking whiskey? He drank more and more until his family was afraid he would become a drunkard. The young man and his family decided he needed a wife to steady him so he married a lovely girl. But soon he was leaving his wife to join the "boys" at the saloon and the habit of drink became stronger and stronger until he was drunk a great part of the time.

Finally his folks said, "If you moved to another town you could quit. You wouldn't drink if it were not for your friends so you must move away from them. Go to another town, get a job, make new friends, devote yourself to your wife and to the baby soon to be born."

So Mel and his wife moved. His folks gave him a fine carriage and a splendid horse and felt sure things would be different from now on. And for a short time Mel was engrossed with his new home, with his new job, his little baby and new friends. But little by little he gave in to his desire for drink and soon he was

Again It Is Written

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tion until we see Him in it as a humble Man, wholly dependent upon His Father. Satan said to Christ, "Command that these stones be made bread," but Jesus Christ did not come into this world to command, but to obey. There is no exercise of Deity in the temptation in the wilderness. Twice Satan voiced his temptation with these words, "If Thou be the Son of God," but Christ absolutely refused to be drawn onto that ground. We agree with Scroggie, who writes: "Had Christ fought out that battle on ground we could never occupy, and in a strength we do not possess, it could never have been said of Him, 'He was tempted in all points, like as we are, yet without sin;' neither again, 'In that he himself hath suffered, being tempted, He is able to succor them that are tempted.'" That great battle was fought out and won by Jesus, not only as a necessary self-discipline and preparation for the mission on which he was about to enter, but also as our Representative and Champion. And this could not have been if He had met the enemy on any ground other than that of His humanity."

We believe that this record was written for our encouragement in the identical temptation which is bound to come to every child of God. The battle was fought out by our Lord in His humanity and won by a force available to every child of God. James writes, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation." To endure is to suffer with-

out yielding, and so to come out victoriously.

We must insist upon the reality of the temptation. Satan pressed in upon Him from every side. Every avenue of approach was used. Every department of His being was attacked. It was so "He suffered being tempted." The battle in the wilderness was not a sham battle.

The temptations in the wilderness was threefold: it was to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, the pride of life. It was threefold: it touched body, soul, and spirit. It was threefold: dealing with personal need, the Israelitish nation, and the whole world. It was threefold: to selfishness, to presumption, and to compromise. It was threefold: to appetite, to adventure, to ambition.

We are dealing in this message specifically with the second temptation. We believe, however, that the second temptation was rooted in the first. Satan's efforts in the first temptation was to lead Christ to distrust His Father. The basis of that first testing was hunger. He was for forty days and nights without food. The record declares that at the end of that time He was hungry. Forty days and forty nights without food brings you to man's extremity. It was then that Satan spoke. In his words, "If thou art the Son of God," you have Satan's subtle insinuation that if the Lord Jesus were really God's Son, He would not be suffering hunger, for the Father would not permit His Son

(Continued on Page 5)

spending his time and money in the saloons. He lost his job, got another and lost it, too. He traded his fine horse and buggy to the barkeeper for enough liquor to make him and his friends drunk.

Then came the dark day when his precious little baby became very ill. She needed medicine he had no money to buy. Friends took up a collection to buy the baby some medicine and he went to town to have the prescription filled. But on the way to the drug-gist he stopped at a tavern for a drink. Hours later he staggered home broke to find the babe had died for lack of the medicine he had failed to bring!

Neighbors came in to dress the little body and provide a coffin. Someone bought a pair of little white shoes to put on the little feet. Mel was brokenhearted and cursed himself for his weakness and folly. Over the body of his little one he grasped the hand of his wife and vowed he would never touch another drop of booze as long as he lived. And doubtless he meant it; but that night the craving for a drink was so strong that he took the new white shoes from the dead baby's feet and sold them for money to buy liquor!

Again and again he tried to quit drinking but simply could not. Finally one night he walked to the shore of Lake Michigan, intending to drown himself. He hated himself and knew he was not fit to live. But when he reached the lake he was afraid to jump in. He was not fit to die either! For hours he walked up and down the shore, hating to live and afraid to die.

A stranger approached him and offered to help. Mel told him there was no power on earth that could help him, but finally consented to go to the old Pacific Garden Mission with the stranger and there he heard of the love of Christ who had died for sinners. With tears streaming down his face, Mel staggered out of sin into the arms of Jesus and was saved. Not only was his soul saved, that night but his life was saved, too, for Mel Trotter never took another drop of whiskey as long as he lived!

Everyone knows how Mel Trotter became a great evangelist, how he and Homer Hammon tree preached the gospel of Christ around the world, how he established the great rescue mission in Grand Rapids which he ran until his homegoing a few years ago. He helped establish many other rescue missions.

And what God did for cussing

Peter who became the mighty preacher, what He did for Saul of Tarsus who became Paul the apostle, what He did for Mel Trotter the drunken bum who became a sober man who lived the rest of his days serving God, He can do for you.

An Invitation

Why not turn to him right now and trust Him to save your soul? To one day give you a perfect body and to help you live for Him the rest of your life? If you will, won't you please let me know? I have worked hard writing this sermon in the midst of a hard campaign but I will feel more than repaid if you will only let me know you have entered into this glorious salvation. Will you write me in your own words or sign the following statement copy it and mail it to me?

Evangelist Bill Rice
314 Naperville St.
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Mr. Rice:

I have read your sermon, "What A Salvation!" and am writing to let you know that I here and now accept Jesus Christ, trusting Him to save my soul, my body and my life. I gladly write to let you know.

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Again It Is Written

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to go hungry. Remember that that was the natural hunger of a real Man. Hunger is not the result of sin. Appetite for food is Divinely implanted, for it is part of God's wonderful economy for the sustenance of man. Hunger is a God-created sense, and it is the Divine purpose that man satisfy hunger. God intends a hungry man to eat. Christ was hungry, and without food life was impossible. So Satan came and said, "Command that these stones be made bread and satisfy your hunger. You must do something about that hunger or you will die. There is no food here, but if you are the Son of God, you can turn stones into bread, and surely there is nothing wrong in satisfying a legitimate appetite. It is no more evil to turn stones into bread than it is to turn water into wine."

There is nothing wrong in satisfying a legitimate appetite, but there is something wrong in satisfying a legitimate appetite in a wrong way. To do a right thing in a wrong place, or a wrong way, or at a wrong time, makes a right thing to be wrong. For example, it was right for David to take the Ark to Jerusalem, but it was wrong for him to carry it upon an ox-cart; hence, judgment, because the right thing was done in the wrong way.

Our Lord answered this temptation by saying, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." He appealed to the Word, which gives the will of His Father. Christ had not gone into the wilderness in His own will, but in the Father's will. The Father knew there was no food in the wilderness. His Father had used ravens to feed Elijah by the brook Cherith. His Father had fed a whole nation in the wilderness, and surely the One who could feed a whole nation could feed one Man if it were His will for that Man to eat. The fact that He was right is proven by the ministry of angels after the temptation (Matt. 4:11). If the Father had brought Him to the place where there was no food and did not supply food, it must be that the Father's plan was that He be without food. The Lord indicated that it would be better to live by the Word of God, even if it meant physical death, then to disobey God to save His physical life. Satan attempts to get us time and again to disregard God's Word, to live in independence of God, to distrust God.

Had Christ acted at Satan's behest and used Divine power to relieve hunger, that testing would not have been the testing of a true man. Had he fallen back upon His omnipotence in that hour, His temptation could be of no help to me; for if I came to such a place, I could not turn a stone into bread. But if I ever do come to such a place, I can trust God, even as He did.

It was after this first temptation in which our Lord affirmed His faith by saying "It is written" that the second temptation followed. In the second temptation we call special attention to Satan's "It is written" and Christ's "It is written again."

Satan's "It Is Written"

In the second temptation Satan took Christ into the holy city and to the pinnacle of the temple, as if to give sanctity to the deed—as if to say, "I would not ask You to do anything wrong in Your Father's house." I think Satan frequently goes to the house of God. I suppose if most of us went out to seek for Satan today, we would go to the slums; but we will probably find him in the church and where the people of God are assembled together, for his warfare is constantly against the Word.

His temptation here is expressed in the words, "Cast thyself down." That is, he urged Christ to cast Himself from the pinnacle to the court of the temple where the multitudes were worshipping. The temptation is along this line: "You came into the world as Messiah. The nation of Israel is expecting the Messiah, and that He will come in a miraculous way. If they

see You descending in that miraculous way, accompanied by angels, they will acclaim You Messiah at once. No need to take that long path that You think lies before You. Become King of the Jews now." In other words, Satan was urging a short cut to the throne. Too many times Satan's efforts are to short cuts. Many men desire wealth. The way to wealth is hard labor and honest effort. Men are eager to be rich and cannot take the long way; and today the penitentiaries are full of folk who have tried a short cut to wealth.

Satan said, "It is written." By those words he made this temptation to appear a matter of faith. It was as if he said, "You told me in the wilderness that You would trust God. You quoted His word. You said 'It is written.' You meant that You would live by faith. All right, show me. Cast Yourself down. Demonstrate Your trust in Him. Certainly here in Your Father's house you can rest on Your Father's promises. No harm can befall You here. Cast Yourself down. You said, 'It is written.' I say, 'It is written.'"

This temptation, however, was not to trust, but to presumption. If Satan could not rob Christ of faith, he would attempt to turn that faith to sin. If he could not bring Christ to the place of independence, he would try to bring Him to the place of unwarrantable dependence. If he could not bring Christ to the place of distrust, he would bring Him to the place of false trust. So we repeat, this was not a matter of faith, but of presumption. Faith does not make a show of itself. Faith is always linked with obedience.

"It is written," Satan quoted, "He shall give his angels charge concerning thee, and in their hands they shall bear thee up lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." This is not a quotation. It is a partial quotation. It is a garbled quotation. It is a misquotation. He was quoting from Psalms 91: 11, 12: "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone." You will note that in the quotation he omitted the words, "to keep thee in all thy ways," and he added the words, "at any time."

The words, "to keep thee in all thy ways," are important. Your ways as Christians are God's ways. If you are out of God's ways, you are out of your own way. The commission of verse 11 reaches no further than "those ways." While you are in those ways, the angels of God will keep you. Christ's way was the way of the cross. In that way He could be sure of angelic ministry, but only in that way. Your way as a Christian is a way of holiness and cross-bearing, and denial of self. If you are in that way, you can be sure of the promises of God. If you are not in that way when you plead the promises of God, you are simply asking God to put His approval on your sins and His grace upon your wrongdoing.

Christ's "It Is Written Again"

Note how Christ met the temptation of Satan. He met Scripture with Scripture. He said, "It is written again." He wrested the Sword of the Spirit from the hand of the enemy and turned it against him. Christ appealed to the same Scriptures given to us. Indeed, our Sword is better than His, since he had only the Old Testament and we have the New Testament, with all of its grace and power added to the Old. Jesus Christ used the weapon that fits our hand. In our temptations we can meet Satan in exactly the same way in which our Lord met him.

"It is written again." The word "again" is interesting. It is the emphatic word in this statement, and so Rotherham translates it, "Again it is written."

This word "again" does not mean "on the contrary." In other words, Christ did not say that Deuteronomy 6:16 contradicted Psalms 91: 11, 12. The Scripture which Christ quoted did not refute

the Scripture which Satan quoted, but rather qualified and interpreted it. The Word is never contradictory, for the Word is Truth, and there is no contradiction in Truth. The Word of God is one with itself throughout. There is no discord between Moses and David, and James does not contradict Paul. In the Word, faith and work, love and duty, always go together.

When our Lord said, "Again it is written," He gave an example of the correct way to use the Bible. The Bible is not a scrapbook, with truth to be drawn from clippings here and there. The Bible is an organic whole. G. Campbell Morgan never said a truer thing than when he said that if he took a text, he needed the whole Bible to explain it. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the importance of studying a verse in the light of its entire context. Only so can it be a true guide. Failure to do this is one of the chief causes of the misinterpretation of Scripture. The Bible is not made up of isolated texts.

There is an old story of a man who had a brick house he wanted to sell. He carried about with him a brick from the house, and when he found a possible purchaser, he displayed the brick to show him what kind of a house he had. You cannot tell what a house is from looking at one brick. You cannot know the Book by looking at one verse. It takes more than one brick to make a building, and it takes more than one text to give you the Truth. Bible truth has a large place on the pages of Scripture. You do not have to search for the doctrines in God's Word. Dogma is not based on a single verse, nor does it have to be hunted with a microscope. Take a large view of Truth.

"Again it is written" means more than this. It means that Scripture is not to be misquoted, and distorted, and twisted. It means that a promise is not to be misapplied with a demand for its fulfillment according to your own purpose. This is not a true usage of God's Holy Word.

Our "It Is Written"

Satan still seeks to persuade men to tempt God. That word "tempt" means "to put to the test or to the proof." Our Lord quoted from Deuteronomy 6:16, which refers to Israel's testing of God at Massah by insisting that He should prove His presence among them in the way in which they prescribe (Exod. 17:7). They called in question His presence and His power. Men must beware of dictating to God in unbelief and presumption. Our Lord refused to demand of God a special token of His presence and care. No saint should thrust his head into a lion's mouth and then pray to God to save him. He had better run, and pray while he runs. To be cast into a lion's den by the enemy is a different thing. Mark 16:18 says, "They shall take up serpents." This does not mean that a man shall put on a public exhibition and permit a poisonous serpent to strike him to prove the power of God. That is not faith, but presumption. It is true that a viper fastened itself upon Paul's hand and that he suffered no harm, but Paul was not looking for serpents; he was looking for sticks. He did not challenge God to give a demonstration of power. We can tempt God by tempting Him to put His power to a needless test. We can tempt God, seeking to use His power for our own selfish ends and vain glory.

Satan still tempts men with Scripture. A great many of the devilish wrongs in this world seek justification from Scripture. Men have attempted to justify slavery on the basis of the Scripture. Men have attempted to justify polygamy on the basis of Scripture. The Mormons would do that today. Many have attempted to justify drunkenness on the

basis of Scripture. They make the "little wine" of Timothy an ocean in which they drown themselves. Rome has attempted to justify its persecution of Israel by Scripture. She justified the Inquisition, with its bloody persecution of both the Jews and Christians, by Scripture.

Satan still uses men to wrest Scripture to their own destruction. Catholicism does this in its teaching of purgatory, and the confessional, and baptismal regeneration, and popery, and Maryoltry.

Satan still quotes Scripture partially. Every heresy in the church is partial truth. Jehovah's Witnesses quote Scripture, but only in part, and their teaching is deadly error. Every system of iniquity tries to build on some portion of Scripture.

Satan still isolates texts. He presents a fragment of truth as a whole truth. He quotes "God is love" frequently, and insists that God is merciful and gracious, and will forgive sin and not condemn the sinner. "God is love," so you can live as you please and all will be well. Cast yourself down into the abyss of sin; He will give His angels charge over thee. "God is love" but God is also "a consuming Fire."

If Satan cannot tempt men to presumption, he will drive them to despair. If he cannot persuade a man that the Lord is too merciful to punish, he will try to persuade him that the Lord is too just to pardon. He gives a man a Scripture about the sin that hath never forgiveness, to lead him into darkness and despair. Many feel that somehow or other they are guilty of the unpardonable sin, although for the life of them they cannot tell what it is. They think of nothing else. They never remember that God says, "Whosoever will may come," nor do they remember that Christ said, "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out."

When Satan meets us and tempts us with Scripture, how are we to meet him? The same as our Lord did in the wilderness. It was not the Divine Man, but it was the Divine Word that brought victory to Jesus Christ. The same Word will accomplish the same results today. We can say, "It is written"; and if Satan comes back and says, "It is written," we can say, "It is written again." Victory over Satan does not depend on our own wisdom; it does not depend on our skill in debate. It takes more than logic to defeat Satan. Our conflict with him is not a conflict of wits. The weakest believer in the world who could not stand against Satan for a moment in argument, may arm himself with the wisdom of God. God has spoken, and His Word is preserved. He puts an answer in your mouth; He puts a Sword in your hand. You can answer every temptation of the Evil One with "It is written."

Too many times children of God are defeated because they do not know the Truth. Know your Bible. Be familiar with it. Study

it in the home, and teach it to your children.

We read of a lad in Mexico who was a member of a Catholic Church. He had never read the Bible; but one day there fell into his hands a copy of the precious Book. He read it, and his heart warmed, and his whole being thrilled with the Truth of God. Then one day his priest discovered the boy with the Book and took the Bible away from him. The boy was in deep sorrow over his loss. Sometime later he crossed the border into Texas, and one evening saw a tent with a meeting advertised. He entered the tent, and there in the front stood a man with an open Book in his hand. He was reading, and that boy heard again the message that had so warmed his heart. He thrilled at the words, and finally started down the aisle, shouting out, "That's my Book! That's my Book!"

Oh, that we might all say the same thing of God's Holy Book! "That's my Book!"—not because we own a copy, not because we have a copy in our hands, but because we have the truth of that Book in head and heart.

May we be so filled with God's Truth that when Satan comes to say, "It is written," we can answer, "It is written again."

(From The Pilot.)

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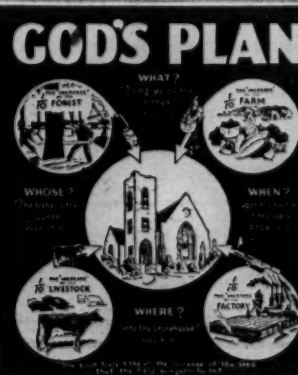
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Chaplain-Pastor Tells of Remarkable Answers to Prayer

From Lake Village, Arkansas, Rev. H. O. Malone who is pastor of the Lake Village Baptist Church, writes the following encouraging word, telling how God answered his prayers. So that others may be encouraged to pray and to the glory of God we print his letter here.

"... I praise the Lord for you and your ministry. As you recall I gave away fifty of your papers weekly as an army chaplain, and bought some of your books to loan to the soldiers, which they enjoyed immensely.

"Your book on Prayer—Asking and Receiving which I first read in the jungles of New Guinea, brought such signal blessings to my life until I feel that I must tell you about it, even if I did neglect to do so at the time, until I am now ashamed of waiting so long. In brief my experience was as follows:

"I was overworked and undernourished—having to live principally on dehydrated food, which was very unpalatable. Therefore, I became so weak until I lost my resistance and took an infection of the throat, which was diagnosed as diphtheria, and finally as possible cancer. I was to be shipped home. The soldiers to whom I ministered who believed in prayer, came to me and said that they had had a prayer meeting for me and were praying that I would be healed, for they could not believe it God's will for me to be sent home. I told them that I was praying the same prayer.

"Just before I was shipped the Lord heard and healed me. I realized that I needed more nourishing food than I had been having. Therefore encouraged by your book on Prayer, which made God's prayer-promises exceedingly real to me, I asked Him for the kind of food that I needed. On that same day I was invited to the Port Company where I was served fresh liver and onions, biscuits and altogether one of the best meals I ever ate in my life. How humbled I was and thrilled with thanksgiving!

"Naturally, the next morning I started to ask for the necessary food, but the Lord stopped me. He said, 'The model prayer does not say, "Give ME my daily bread, but US." That discouraged me at first, but after I realized that it was the Lord who is able, who was prompting me to pray for food for all, I prayed it as best I could and asked Him to increase my faith. The next day the whole outfit, yes, even the whole base, had liver and onions, the same as I had had the day before! Furthermore, we began to have eggs for breakfast and other fresh foods, which was a boon, indeed. In fact, from that day forward I saw the Lord feed

us in the jungle—just like He fed the children of Israel in the wilderness. Just like they found grace for the wilderness, I found grace for the jungle.

"Up until this time I had become reconciled to my rank and felt that it would be selfish to pray for promotion, for it would mean about \$100 more per month; besides, I had already had a 'run-in' with a certain Colonel for 'preaching too much pure gospel,' as he phrased it. He had me transferred, and I was sent to the jungles in a short time, which made me feel that 'my kind' could not hope for promotion in the army. However, the Lord made it so strong to me that I should ask for promotion that I asked, and also wrote to my wife and praying friends that they should join me. They all wrote back, each saying that they had the assurance that I would be promoted. How, I did not see at all. It seemed so unreasonable to me.

"Nevertheless, just fifty-two days from that night I had been asked for by another Colonel who promised to promote me to a Major, which he did, and I became chaplain over a big General Hospital of three thousand patients instead of the small Field Hospital which operated in the combat zone, sometimes right along with the Infantry.

"At this new assignment I preached daily, and sometimes several times in a day, and the Lord saved many of our soldiers, sailors, Wacs and nurses. On Saturday nights the Lord led us to conduct a religious rally, which was something like Youth for Christ or The Word of Life Hour in N. Y. C., which I participated in when I was a chaplain up there. I could go on and on reciting many answered prayers.

"Last year in a revival I spoke almost one whole week on 'My Prayer-Answering God,' and the Lord gave a gracious revival. I have now been back in the pastorate a little over a year and in my first year here God gave us 151 additions to the church, 86 of them coming by baptism, although this is not a large town. How I do praise and thank Him for His great goodness and mercy so bountifully bestowed upon those who love Him, trust Him and call upon Him!

"Thank you, Brother Rice, and may He continue to bless you for many, many more years in your marvelous ministry."

The Glory of Winning Souls

(Continued from Page 1)

has jeopardized his life, and perhaps an arm may be disabled, or a limb taken away, or a sense lost, or an injury irretrievably done to his body; yet he claps his hands and says, "I have saved lives from death!" The crowd in the street hail him as a man who has been the deliverer of his fellow-creatures, honouring him more than the monarch who has stormed a city, sacked a town, and murdered myriads. But, alas! the body which was saved from death today may die tomorrow. Not so the soul that is saved from death: It is saved everlastingly. It is saved beyond the fear of destruction. And if there be joy in the breast of a benevolent man when he saves a body from death, how much more blessed must he be when he is made the means in the hand of God of saving "a soul from death," and hiding a multitude of sins! It was Richard Knill, that blessed missionary of the cross to whom I am personally so deeply indebted, who said that, if there were only one unconverted per-

son in the whole world, and that person lived in the wilds of Siberia, and if every Christian minister and every private believer in the world had to make a pilgrimage to that spot before that soul were brought to Christ, the labour would be well expended if that one soul were so saved. This is putting the truth in a striking way, but in a way in which everyone who realizes the value of immortal souls will heartily concur.

When I began to preach in the little thatched chapel at Waterbeach, my first concern was, Would God save any souls through me? They called me a ragged-headed boy, and I think I was just that; I know I wore a jacket. After I had preached for some little time, I thought, "This gospel has saved me, but then somebody else preached it; will it save anybody else now that I preach it?" Some Sundays went over, and I used to say to the deacons, "Have you heard of anybody finding the Lord under my ministry? Do you know of anyone brought to Christ through my preaching?"

My good old friend and deacon said, "I am sure somebody must have received the Saviour; I am quite certain it is so." "Oh!" I answered, "but I want to know it, I want to prove that it is so."

How my heart leaped for joy when I heard tidings of my first convert! I could never be satisfied with a full congregation, and the kind expressions of friends; I longed to hear that hearts had been broken, that tears had been seen streaming from the eyes of penitents. How I did rejoice, as one that findeth great spoil, one Sunday afternoon when my good deacon said to me, "God has set His seal on your ministry in this place, sir." Oh, if anybody had said to me, "Someone has left you twenty thousand pounds," I should not have given a snap of my fingers for it, compared with the joy which I felt when I was told that God had saved a soul through my ministry! "Who is it?" I asked. "Oh, it is a poor labouring man's wife over at such-and-such a place! She went home brokenhearted by your sermon two or three Sundays ago, and she would like to speak to you." I said, "Will you drive me over there? I must go to see her," and early on the Monday morning I was driving down to the village my deacon had mentioned, to see my first spiritual child. I have in my eye now the cottage in which she lived: believe me, it always appears picturesque. I felt like the boy who has earned his first guinea, or like a diver who has been down to the depths of the sea and brought up a rare pearl. I prize each one whom God has given me, but I prize that woman most. Since then, my Lord has blessed me to many thousands of souls who have found the Saviour by hearing or reading words which have come from my lips. I have had a great many spiritual children born of the preaching of the Word, but I still think that woman was the best of the lot. At least, she did not live long enough for me to find many faults in her. After a year or two of faithful witness-bearing, she went home, to lead the way for a goodly number who have followed her. I remember well her being received into the church, and dying, and going to Heaven. She was the first seal to my ministry, and a very precious one. No mother was ever more full of happiness at the sight of her firstborn son. Then could I have sung the song of the Virgin Mary, for my soul did magnify the Lord for all generations should call me blessed, for so I counted and still count the conversion of one soul. I would rather be the means of saving a soul from death than be the greatest orator on earth. I would rather bring the poorest woman in the world to the feet of Jesus than to be made Archbishop of Canterbury. I would sooner pluck one single brand from the burning than explain all mysteries. To win a soul from going down into the pit is a more glorious achievement than to be crowned in the arena of theological controversy as Dr. Sufficiatissimus; to have faithfully unveiled the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ will be, in the final judgment, accounted worthier service than to have solved the problems of the religious Sphinx, or to have cut the Gordian knot of Apocalyptic difficulty. One of my happiest thoughts is that, when I die, it shall be my privilege to enter into rest in the bosom of Christ, and I know that I shall not enjoy my Heaven alone. Thousands have already entered there who have been drawn to Christ under my ministry. Oh! what bliss it will be to fly to Heaven, and to have a multitude of converts before and behind, and, on entering the glory, to be able to say, "Here am I, Father, and the children Thou hast given me."

—From Spurgeon's Autobiography

PLEASE MENTION
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Would You Let a Friend Down?

By LOLA M. BRADSHAW

General Manager, Sword of the Lord Publishers

I feel as though an old friend had slighted me, that I have been jilted, that I am not loved any more! WHY? Because I have gone on writing columns of copy week after week in THE SWORD OF THE LORD telling you how we are waiting to give you lovely and worthwhile gifts for your subscriptions to this paper, and I have been completely ignored by a good many of you!

A lot of you have responded wonderfully. Some have sent in scores of subscriptions, and I am very grateful for these. And what is much more important, the Lord is pleased, and hundreds of new readers will be getting THE SWORD OF THE LORD every week for the next year. Because of this, Christians will get right with God, souls will be saved, churches will be revived and blessed, preachers set on fire for God.

But that does not make up for the rest of you. I have still been slighted and ignored by some of you who ought to send subscriptions! I think the Lord Jesus feels the same way, too, because many of you have not done what He has laid upon your hearts to do about this matter. Ask Him what He would have you to do about it, and send the subscriptions TODAY. Aren't your friends and loved ones worth saving? What are you going to do to reach them? Many have been saved through reading this paper. Perhaps yours would be, too.

Is your pastor all he might be for the Lord? Does he have all the power he ought to have? Does he get results that Jesus promised we could have? Remember, He said, "The works

that I do shall he do also; AND GREATER WORKS THAN THESE shall he do..." (John 14:12). What about it? Could your pastor take some encouragement, some Spirit-empowered messages to help make him the worker he ought to be? Then, send him THE SWORD OF THE LORD for a year.

Why not do as Brother R. of Maryville, Tennessee, who wrote yesterday? He said: "I have sent many people subscriptions. I sent one to my brother who was careless in his Christian life, and it is wonderful to see him catch on fire for the Lord." He sent in six subscriptions, by the way, and got \$6.00 worth of premiums free. Then he said: "I thank THE SWORD OF THE LORD for the opportunity to get these books on these terms."

Of course, if all of your friends are all they might be, if they do not need any encouragement in the Christian life, maybe you need not bother sending them subscriptions. But if you know people who need to catch on fire for God, if the good Christians you know need encouragement in their good fight of faith, (and which of us doesn't?), if your

(Continued on Page 7)

HOW TO START PLANS FOR UNION CAMPAIGN

(Continued from Page 1)

charity among Christians of various denominations and we can work well with interdenominational groups so long as the co-operating pastors and workers believe the fundamentals of the faith, such as the inspiration of the Bible, the atoning death of Christ, salvation by faith through grace and the absolute need for regeneration and the duty of Godly living. We seek to revive the saints and to win souls to Christ without arousing unnecessary denominational controversies.

God is wonderfully blessing these consecrated, Spirit-filled young men. They are strong, powerful Bible preachers; they have blessed revivals and win many, many souls. Each of them is adequate for union campaigns. Each has some time open in 1949 which I would like to see them use in large union campaigns. Each of them will have more calls than he can fill, but such men ought to be used to the best advantage possible.

I, too, have kept most of the year open thus far, and have room for a good number of campaigns yet to be planned.

Now I suggest that you let us at THE SWORD OF THE LORD help plan your union campaigns. I will be glad to send a spiritual and sensible worker to your town or city to talk with pastors, enlist cooperation and help organize a revival committee to help set dates, help secure the proper evangelist, help agree on an evangelist. First, I suggest that two or three pastors or other Christian leaders talk things over and write me frankly about the burden that is on your hearts, the size of the community, how many pastors and churches might be enlisted, etc. It would be proper for any pastor to talk among interested Christians and see if there is some interest for union revival. Any Youth for Christ leader or rescue mission worker or Christian laymen's group might mention the matter to two or

three earnest pastors and if there is some interest we would like to follow it up and try to help plan for and arrange a union revival campaign. You assume no financial responsibility by asking an advance man to come and investigate the possibility of a union campaign.

If some other evangelist is desired besides those named, we will be glad to recommend some reputable, proven evangelist, sound in doctrine and methods, not money-minded, who are Spirit-filled and actually hold great revivals.

We want THE SWORD OF THE LORD to advance the cause of revival and soul winning in every way possible. You who are interested, will you not see what can be done in your own community? Remember that Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Why not talk to two or three others who might be burdened about a revival and then if an advance man is needed to try to enlist other pastors and churches and help organize committees and promote a revival, write to me.

Address your letters to Evangelist John R. Rice, 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

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With the Evangelists

Reports From America's Outstanding Soul Winners

By the Editor

64 Decisions for Christ in R. Paul Miller Revival

A fine, solid, Bible-preaching evangelist is Evangelist R. Paul Miller. We have recently had a nice letter from Rev. M. R. Walter, pastor of the Hillwood Fellowship Chapel of Akron, Ohio, telling of services there led by Evangelist Miller. Brother Walter writes:

"Just a report from one of your agents on a real old-fashioned, Heaven-sent, Holy Spirit revival. The services were held by Evangelist R. Paul Miller at the Hillwood Fellowship Chapel in Akron, Ohio. The meeting was only set up for two weeks, November 7-21, going through three Sundays, and I soon realized, with the breath of Heaven upon us, that we should have gone three weeks."

"I am happy to report 64 decisions for Christ in the two weeks that we enjoyed with this real consecrated servant of the Lord. Besides the revival that came to my own heart and to my people, we saw the hand of the Lord stirring the whole community, homes reunited, family relationships restored and many hardened sinners brought to Christ."

"Thank you Lord!"

(Signed) Rev. M. R. Walter, pastor
Hillwood Fellowship Chapel
Akron, Ohio

Curt Emmons Evangelistic Party Reports

The Emmons Evangelistic Party composed of Evangelist and Mrs. Curt Emmons and two musical daughters, reports good meetings in Marion, Indiana; Peoria, Illinois; Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and at Bourbon, Indiana. Evangelist Curt Emmons says:

"We are to be at First United Brethren Church, Danville, Illinois, November 1-14. The Uniontown meeting was with an Alliance Church; in Peoria, Presbyterian; the others were with U. B.'s. We have had increasing attendance and interest from night to night;

souls saved and rededications in every campaign. A number have been added to the churches. Young people have responded for life service."

Pastor Commends Evangelist Jim Mercer

It is always pleasant when pastors commend evangelists, so we were especially pleased with the following fine letter from Pastor R. D. Ibach of the Avon Baptist Church, Avon, Ohio:

"These past two weeks of revival services have truly been a time of refreshing sent from the Lord. Never has the pastor of this church been under such clear and powerful preaching of the gospel, or witnessed such a moving of the Holy Spirit upon any congregation of people so consistently night after night, until we have all been moved and melted with conviction, and made conscious of our spiritual needs. This is why so many of us have been responding, as God's children, to the challenges from night to night to repent and seek the Lord anew. This is why so many of our people have been coming in tears to the pastor and the evangelist even between meetings, and confessing their need and seeking encouragement and help for a closer, more victorious walk with Christ. This is also the reason that many of the unsaved have been awakened to see their need and responded to the call of the Holy Spirit to come to Christ for salvation."

"The Apostle Paul informs the church in the fourth chapter of Ephesians that evangelists are one of Christ's gifts to the church, 'for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.' We do thank the Lord for all of His gifts and blessings. We are thankful for the God-appointed blessing of evangelist Jim Mercer and his ministry to this church."

"With all sincerity we say that Brother Mercer is one of Christ's choicest gifts to His Church of

today, and we shall continue to follow him in our prayers as he goes from church to church as an ambassador for Christ."

"The pastor's feelings are that the money invested in this campaign has been one of the best investments in the Lord's work that this church has ever made, for the multiplied blessings that have been ours during this campaign will continue and increase even until time fades into eternity."

"Sincerely, in the ministry of Christ,"

(Signed) Pastor R. D. Ibach

Evangelist Millard Box Blessed With Revival

Rev. Millard Box gave up his pastorate and radio program and went into full-time revival work a few months ago. God has greatly blessed him and we have published one account of a blessed revival campaign which he conducted in Oklahoma. He is seeing souls saved in all his campaigns and writes about the last revival effort where God gave great blessings in a small community. You will enjoy this report:

"I have just finished a meeting in a hamlet of about two hundred people. There are two grocery stores, a beer joint and a post office. The church has a membership of about one hundred, nearly all women and children. I preached there for three weeks. We had eighteen saved, twenty baptized and eight backsliders. Nearly all of the ones saved and all of the backsliders but one were men. Drinkers, cursers, church-haters and the like made up the group. This was an old-time revival with shouting and singing and rejoicing by the saints. One man saved shouted the praises of God, caring not what people might think. The little church was crowded night after night the entire three weeks. The beer-joint man said that we had nearly ruined his business for over half of his customers were saved."

"I know that those figures are 'small potatoes,' as Hyman Appelmann would say, but they are large figures in the sight of the Lord and that little church and community. The name of the place was Ritchey, Missouri."

"The power of the Lord came night after night as I preached. I thought more than once of THE SWORD OF THE LORD conferences where His Spirit came so mightily. He has been so good to me."

"I sold many of your books there at Ritchey and the people always grow and the church always progresses where I leave the literature of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Your literature is a blessing to any church or individual."

Former Preacher Saved in Douglas Winn Revival

Evangelist Douglas Winn of 911 Myrtle Road, Martinsville, Virginia, preaches plainly against sin, preaches in the power of the Holy Spirit and so we regularly hear of blessed conversions in his revival campaigns. We are glad to have the following report which rejoices all of our hearts:

"My Dear Dr. Rice: 'There were thirty-one conversions and also some thirty odd Christians to confess sin in their lives in a one-week meeting just closed at the Bethany Baptist Church in Colerain, North Carolina, and the Baptist Church in Ossipee, North Carolina."

"Today an artesian well seems to be bubbling in my soul because of the glorious, Spirit-filled service last night. While the pastor, Brother Luther King, and I prayed before the service, the

Souls Saved Through Editor's Film

By the Editor

Harry J. Hemminger of Cleveland, Ohio, has started out to represent The Sword of the Lord and show the editor's two films. He is just getting started, but writes us: "Had my first meeting last night at Savannah, Ohio, in a little country church. There were about one hundred present, and four precious souls accepted Christ, also several hands were raised to dedicate their lives to Him. The pastor was highly elated over the service. I am going to show one of the films at the Baptist Bible Institute chapel hour next Thursday night. There are some forty different churches represented there, and believe I will get several calls."

Brother Hemminger will be glad to show either or both of these sermon films anywhere within reach of Cleveland, Ohio. One film is to Christians, "He That Wineth Souls is Wise," a plain Bible sermon preached before the camera. The voice is my voice and the picture shows me at the pulpit preaching, but attractive illustrations are interspersed throughout the film. It is twenty-five minutes long. The other film is a sermon to the unsaved, "The Dying Thief," and it has won many souls to Christ."

To those who would like either Lord put it upon my heart to pray for six precious souls to be saved. No doubt we felt just as you and Brother Ross did that time in Texas."

"After preaching on 'Scriptural Leprosy' five came forward to receive Christ as personal Saviour. I told the people about our prayer and that there was some other soul that should come."

"The service had ended and I had shaken hands with the people and was going down the steps to get in my car when a man about thirty-five years of age rushed up the steps and with a broken heart cried out, 'I am that sixth one and wish to be saved!' He was on his way home and was so much under conviction he drove back to the church. He had been a Baptist preacher but had not preached for several years and had been living in sin. When I opened up the precious Word to him he confessed that he had never been saved and cried out to God that the words, 'You are a leper,' were burning in his soul. This man was the happiest convert I have ever seen. He kissed the Bible, praised God, and then preached a pungent Spirit-filled sermon to the people who were still in the building. People wept, shouted, sang, prayed, and praised God. There wasn't a dry eye in the place. The Lord led me to speak to the pastor's son and ask him had not the Lord called him to preach. He exclaimed, 'Yes. He has been calling me to preach but I have never told anybody but I surrender to preach right now, praise God!' As I drove away people were still praying and singing His praises. The night before a high school girl came forward to bitterly confess she had been living in adultery and that night she severed the sordid affair with her paramour."

"Please remember in prayer the meetings here in Pennsylvania and the one to follow at the Calvary Baptist Church in Burlington, North Carolina."

of these films by the editor shown in your church, within reasonable distance of Cleveland, Ohio, please get in touch with Harry J. Hemminger, 2515 Hood Avenue, Cleveland 9, Ohio, or phone him at Ontario 4645, Cleveland. He will come for a freewill offering, will try to get souls saved and stir Christians to soul winning and will be glad to take subscriptions for THE SWORD OF THE LORD."

Other representatives of The Sword of the Lord are available to show these films in other parts of the country. Write us for information, at 214 West Wesley, Wheaton, Ill.

"I Could Write Every Day in April and Never Begin to Tell What the Sword Did for Me"

"May I make a feeble effort to tell you what your paper and books have meant to me. I was saved when I was about five or six years old but always had a struggle to serve the Lord."

"I didn't unite with a church and follow the Lord in baptism until I was fourteen. Still I seemed to have a struggle. I was always between two fires. Religious fanatics or cold modernists dominated me. I was so miserable and unhappy I didn't know which way to turn till one day in 1944 I happened to see your book 'Prayer—Asking and Receiving' advertised in the Christian Herald, along with a year's subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I sent for it, and, praise God, I could write every day in April and never begin to tell what it did for me! I am a new creature. I saw God in a different light and began asking for things; first, small things, then bigger things until now I know all things are possible with God."

"I asked to be put into service for Him, and to my horror and surprise I was forced through the strangest circumstances ever, to move to the slums of the city, or so I thought. I set out to find a Baptist Church and found a small mission trying to organize and become a church. Rev. B., our pastor, also reads your literature and we discussed the possibilities of a church in this neighborhood. That was two years ago."

"On June 9th of that year the church was organized with only a few faithful workers but, praise God, our pastor and his wife never ceased praying. He also constantly urged all of his members to pray. At first it seemed hopeless but gradually our faith increased until now I wish you could visit our little church. Almost every meeting some lost soul finds the Lord. It reminds me of the day of Pentecost. The Lord adds to our church 'almost' daily such as should be saved. We have seen the impossible happen. Folks who slammed the door in our faces a year ago are opening their doors for cottage prayer meetings, with the most marvelous results. Praise God for a man that has enough of the Holy Spirit to print such a book."

"I want your little booklet, Never Alone, Never Forsaken. I don't want to miss any Sword literature."

Mrs. Althea E. Garrison
St. Louis, Mo.

Would You Let a Friend Down?

(Continued from Page 6)

minister could be helped by soul-stirring messages from America's leading evangelists and soul winners, then you are the one who should see that they get THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

To encourage you to do it, we are offering you the best premiums we know how or are allowed to give. For every subscription at \$2.00 a year (Canadian and foreign \$2.50 a year) we are offering you free \$1.00 in premiums. So you get \$3.00 worth for each \$2.00 you send; \$15.00 worth for every \$10.00; \$60.00 worth for every \$40.00!

For 23 one-year subscriptions (\$46.00) we are offering you a complete set of Matthew Henry's famous commentary on the whole Bible. There are over 7,000 pages, six large volumes. It sells regularly for \$22.50, yet it is given absolutely free with 23 one-year subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD; a \$68.50 value for only \$46.00 (Canadian and foreign subscriptions \$2.50 a year).

For 19 one-year subscriptions we have selected for you a Scofield Reference Bible with the very finest leather binding we can find. It is stamped in gold, has leather lining, fine quality India paper, the wonderful Scofield helps that will make the Bible a new book to you, plus a 300-page cyclopedic concordance, and maps. Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., president Bob Jones University, said: "The Scofield Bible is the finest I know for the Christian who has not had an opportunity of intensive Bible study in college, seminary, or Bible institute. The notes

make effective guideposts along the path of the student. As such, to my way of thinking, they are unexcelled." This particular morocco bound Scofield Bible regularly sells for \$19.00. But you may have the 19 subscriptions, and the \$19.00 Bible, a \$57.00 value, for only \$38.00. (Canadian and foreign subscriptions at \$2.50 each).

Here is a bargain that is really remarkable. You save 85.4% on this one. Send only six subscriptions at \$2.00 each, and you get free a lovely reference Bible made to sell at \$10.25—a \$22.25 value for only \$12.00! You get \$10.25 worth free. By a special purchase we were able to get this Bible so we could offer it at a good deal less than it was intended to sell, and it is only for this reason that we are able to make this most unusual offer. Send six subscriptions and get this Bible today!

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I hope you had a lovely Christmas.

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Immanuel--"God With Us"

(Continued from Page 3)

cause they are spiritually discerned" (1 Cor. 2:14). If you do not have Christ, the blessed Book of God may be to you dull and dry. It is a closed Book. There was a time when there were not many Bibles and when men chained the Bible to the pulpit so it could not be stolen. Oh, the Bible is a sealed and chained and locked Book to all whose empty hearts have not received the Author of the Book. If you do not have Immanuel, then you do not understand the Bible and you do not have a teacher when you read it. Those who have a Christmas without a Christ, have a Bible without the Author.

In fact, if you do not have Christ you have a world without a Creator. You do not know the riddle of the universe. It may be that your eyes are so blinded you do not even realize that God created this world and all that is in it. You cannot realize that He still administers this universe, still sustains it, and that in Christ all things are held together. If you do not have Christ, you do not realize that not a sparrow falls without His consent, that He clothes the lilies of the field, that all the hairs of your head are numbered. If you do not have Christ, then you cannot claim the promise that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." You have a world without the Creator. You have matter without the Mind behind it. Oh, if you do not have Christ, you do not have God!

And, dear friend, if you do not have Christ, then you have sin and no remedy, sin and no Saviour!

I can well understand how to the unconverted, Christmas time is a day of feasting and of drinking, a time of revelry and ribaldry. You cannot have the real sweetness of the Christmas carols, for Christ is the center of them. You may give your gifts, but you yourself, poor empty soul, cannot receive the things that satisfy! What do you know about Christmas joy anyway? You never heard the angel of God say, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord!" Oh, wherever you are, whoever you are, you have your sin—but do you have a Saviour? Do you have cleansing for a black heart? Do you have peace for a troubled mind? Do you have a hope of eternal salvation, or do you have the fear of retribution, the certainty of punishment when your sins find you out? For all you who are sinners without a Saviour let me say that the only remedy is to have Christ, Immanuel, God with us. For when He was born the angel commanded, "And Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Mary made her bed on the straw in a stable and the baby Jesus was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger, "because there was no room for them in the inn." Someone reads this today who has made no room for Jesus. And do you know why you have rejected Christ? When you rejected Christ, you rejected God. And I fear, oh, I fear that was what you intended to do. You see, when Jesus was crucified that was the first chance the world had ever had really to show how it felt about God. Never before did men have a chance to spit in the face of God! Never before did men have a chance to drive nails in His hands and feet, to pluck out His beard, to blindfold Him and smite Him and say, "Prophecy, who it is that smote thee." Never before did people have a chance to look on while God died as the gentle victim of murderous men! Ever since the slaying of the animals whose skins were used to make coverings for Adam and Eve, down through the line of sacrifices, down through the death of good men and the martyrdom of saints, this old earth had soaked

up much blood; but never until the dear Lord Jesus died and there flowed out from the hole in His side water mingled with blood, did this earth so cursed by sinful men ever soak up the blood of God!

You may be sure that men hated Jesus because He was God, not because He was man. You may be sure they hated Him because He was good, not because He was bad. You may be sure that men rejected Him because they did not want Him for what He is and what He was, God come in the flesh. He is Immanuel, "God with us"; and this "God with us" is the One they deliberately hated and rejected and killed. Oh, sinner, hear me today! Do you reject Christ because He is the Christ of God? Do you reject Him because you do not want God?

This Christmas time is the best

time you will ever have to receive Christ into your heart, to let Immanuel be your own Saviour, God with you! Why not today repent of your sins? Why not today turn to the Christ, the Saviour, and ask Him to come into your heart and forgive your sins and save your poor soul! Why not trust Him this moment, right now, to be your own Saviour now and forever! And the very moment that you turn your case over to Him, depend upon Him, risk Him, believe in Him, that moment He will be your own Immanuel, God with you, your Saviour your constant companion, your eternal refuge from sin, your high priest before God, your salvation!

If you will take this Christ as your own Saviour, then do it now, this day, this very hour! Let this be one Christmas time that you will have the Christ of Christmas, that you will have not only the Bible but the One who wrote it, that you will have not only some of the good things of the world,

but the One who made the world! Oh, let this be one Christmas time that you will have peace and forgiveness and salvation and redemption and a home in Heaven and a new heart! If you will take Christ as your Saviour, then here and now, this moment, close your eyes and honestly tell God so. Admit to Him that you are a sinner, earnestly ask Him to forgive you and depend upon Him to do it this moment. Christ paid for your sins on the cross. He loves you. He is ready to receive you. And He has promised, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." Then trust Him today.

My Decision for Christ

If you will here and now decide for Christ, then I beg of you sign this decision form, then copy it in a letter or on a post card and mail it to me today. I will greatly rejoice in your salvation. Christians will be happier for me as well as for you! And I will send you a letter of encouragement and counsel. Now make your de-

cision and sign this letter, then copy and mail it today!

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
214 West Wesley Street
Wheaton, Illinois

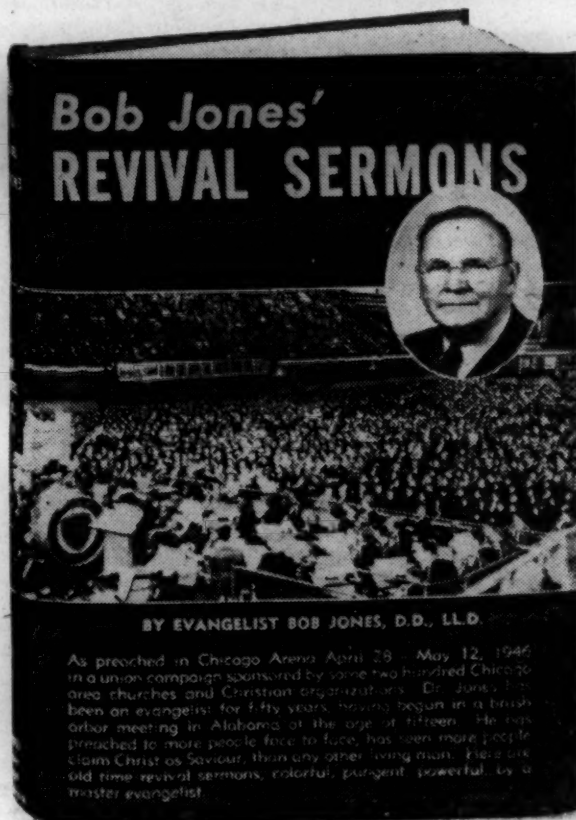
Dear Brother Rice:

I have read your sermon on "Immanuel, 'God With Us.'" I realize that I need Jesus. I had not heretofore taken Him to be my own Saviour. But here and now I repent of my sins. I earnestly turn my heart away from my sins and trust Christ to forgive me and save me now. This moment I depend upon Him, I trust Him, I give Him my heart. By His help I will set out to live for Him the rest of my life. I confidently commit my soul to Christ now, depending on Him to save my soul now and forever.

Signed

Address

Date



DR. JOHN R. RICE Says in the Introduction:

"I am somewhat familiar with the printed sermons of great preachers. I heard Dr. George W. Truett many times during his prime. I have heard Scarborough, Philpott, Gipsy Smith, Billy Sunday and Paul Rader.

Dr. Jones has something of the earnestness of Truett, the storytelling charm of Rader, the sweet simplicity of Gipsy Smith, the courageous convictions of Billy Sunday. I thank God that we can now have in print some of the old-time revival sermons by Dr. Bob Jones, Sr. Uncounted thousands have been moved by them, changed by them, blessed by them. May they burn anew in the heart of every reader!"

This big clothbound book has 186 pages, and there are nine of Dr. Jones' famous messages in it. Everyone who has heard "The Woman in the Case," "Jesus—The Light of the World" or other of these sermonic gems will want to have a copy; and those who have not should be the first to get the book and read these shining examples of revival oratory.

The jacket shows the crowd in the Chicago Arena, where these sermons were preached, and pictures Dr. Jones in an inset. Both lovely and practical, the jacket is earth brown; the cloth binding is a lovely pale green, printed in gold. Clear, large type makes the book a joy to old and young alike. One of the finest books of revival preaching yet to appear!

Our first copies will be ready about December 24, so if you hurry you can get one of the very first copies. Send your order now! Get a copy for your pastor, for a ministerial student.

186 pages, 9 sermons. Price \$2.00
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1. Following Jesus.
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3. Opportunity on Wheels.
4. Christ's Second Coming.
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6. The Woman in the Case.
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These are old-time revival sermons, colorful, pungent and powerful, by a master evangelist. While Dr. Jones' chapel talks are practical and solid, they do not properly represent him as a preacher as do these messages which have been polished and ripened during fifty years of revival preaching. They represent the evangelism of the last generation at its best.

A New Book of Sermons

by

Dr. Bob Jones

These sermons were preached in a city-wide revival campaign sponsored by some two hundred Chicago area churches and Christian organizations in the Chicago Arena April 28 to June 2, 1946. Attendance reached approximately six thousand. The picture on the jacket and on the end sheets shows one of the audiences who heard Dr. Jones in this campaign. Since Dr. Jones preached the first two weeks of a five-week campaign (followed by Dr. Paul Rood and Dr. John R. Rice), these messages were laying the ground work for the campaign, reviving the saints, arousing interest, bringing conviction, and preparing the way for a blessed ingathering. Many were turned to God under the power of these messages.

Although Dr. Jones was an evangelistic contemporary of R. A. Torrey, Billy Sunday, Gipsy Smith, and William Biederwolf, he is still going strong, seeing thousands saved yearly in great revival campaigns. The reader will find the vigor of his thought and the power of his preaching, stimulating and refreshing.



The Author

Dr. Bob Jones began preaching at the age of fifteen in a brush arbor revival in Alabama. Dr. Jones has preached for fifty years—to more people face to face, and has seen more people claim Christ as Saviour, than any other living man. He founded the great Bob Jones University at Greenville, S. C., which has 3,000 students this year.

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